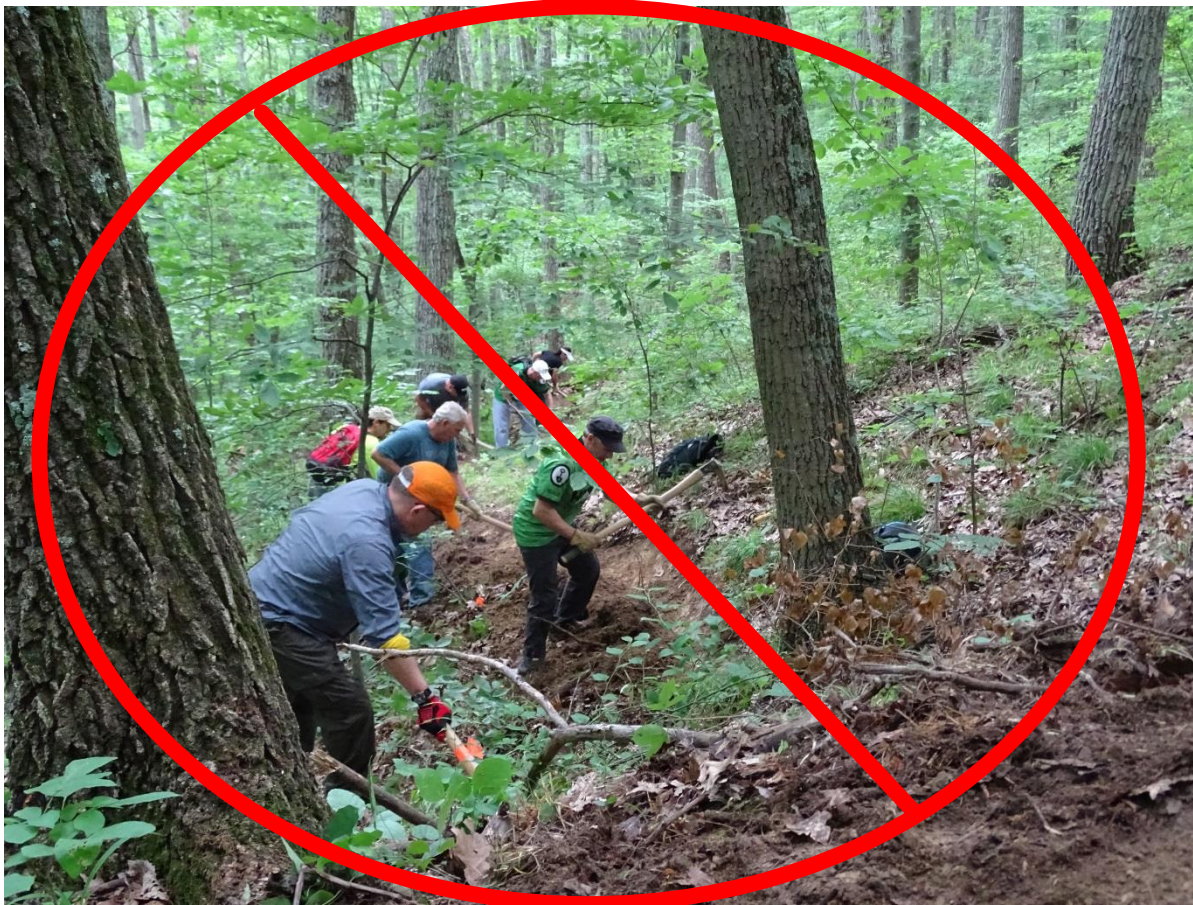


Trail Development 101

The Quick & “Non-Dirty” Guide



How Do We Get Here?



Your Community Wants a Trail... Now What?

WHO

- ▶ Government Agency, typically Parks & Recreation Department
- ▶ Non-Profit Organization
- ▶ Partnership
- ▶ Other

WHERE

- ▶ Parks
- ▶ Former Rail Corridor
- ▶ Riparian Corridor
- ▶ Utility Corridor
- ▶ Right-of-way (ROW)
- ▶ Other

3 Key Components to Trail Development

Plan

- Stakeholder Meetings
- Evaluate Feedback
- Design
- Final Plan

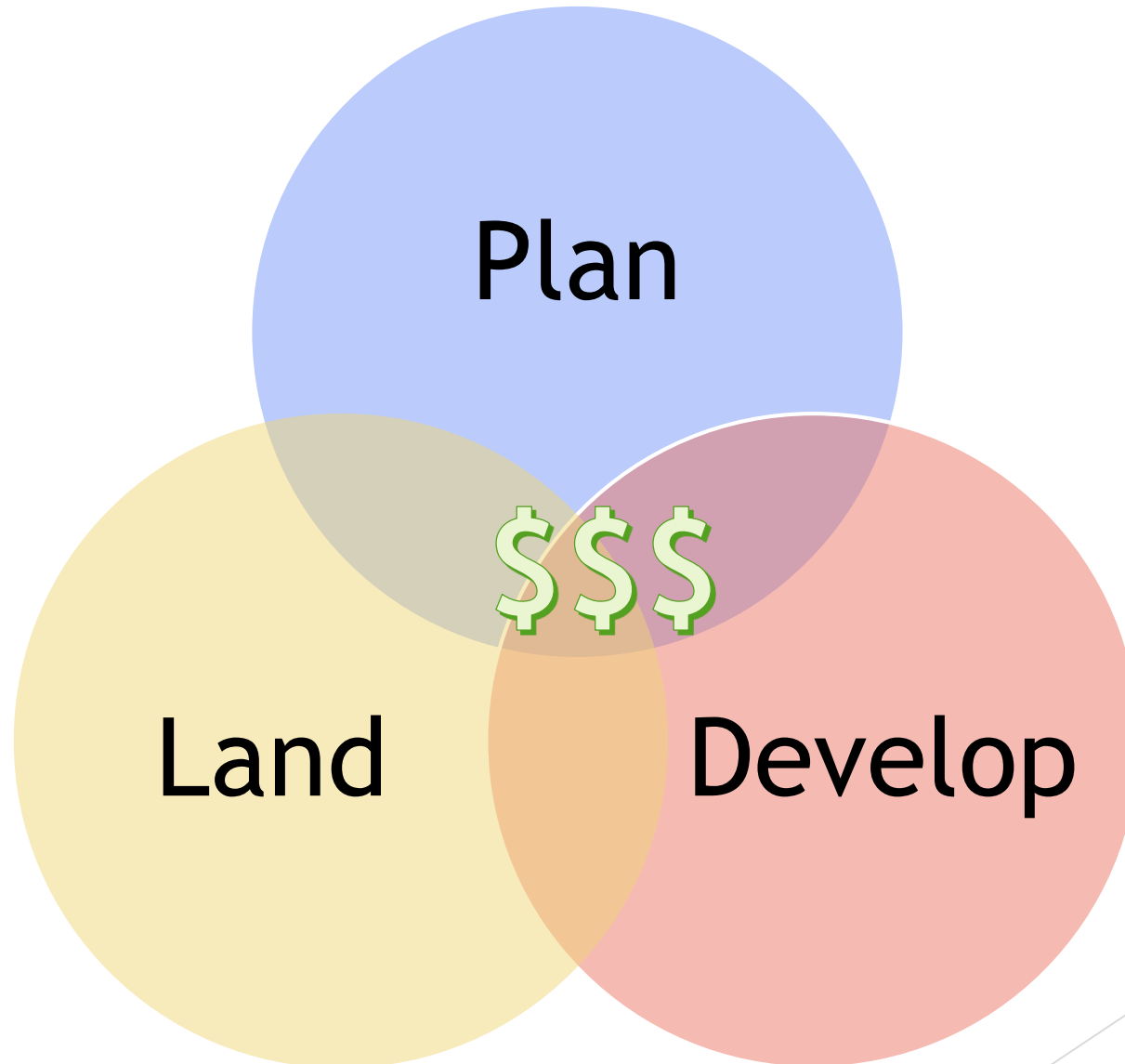
Land

- Deed Research
- Easements
- Acquire Land
- Environmental Reviews

Develop

- Clear
- Grade
- Pave/Add Stone
- Signage
- Amenities

What Do They Have in Common?



FUNDING: The 4th Component

- ▶ Most communities & non-profits have tight budgets & limited resources.
- ▶ Trails are seen as a luxury, not a necessity.
- ▶ On average, hard surface trails in Indiana cost between \$200,000 and \$1,000,000 per mile to develop.
- ▶ Trail managers are forced to look elsewhere for funds if they want to complete their trail.



Current Trail Funding Opportunities

Federal

State

Local

Other

Federal Funding Sources



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graph TD; A[Federal Funding Sources] --> B[USDOT]; A --> C[NPS]; B --> D[STBG]; B --> E[CMAQ]; B --> F[TIGER]; C --> G[LWCF]; D --> H[TA]; H --> I[RTP];
```

The diagram is an organizational chart titled "Federal Funding Sources". It is set against a white background with green geometric shapes on the right and bottom-left edges. The chart is structured as follows: "Federal Funding Sources" is the root node in a green box. It branches into two nodes: "USDOT" and "NPS", both in green boxes. "USDOT" branches into three nodes: "STBG", "CMAQ", and "TIGER", all in green boxes. "NPS" branches into one node: "LWCF", in a green box. "STBG" branches into one node: "TA", in a green box. "TA" branches into one node: "RTP", in a green box. All boxes are green with white text, and they are connected by thin black lines.

USDOT

NPS

STBG

CMAQ

TIGER

LWCF

TA

RTP

Surface Transportation Block Grant (STBG)

- ▶ Used for all types of transportation projects
 - ▶ Mostly used for highways, roads, bridges, etc.
 - ▶ However trails & bike/ped efforts are eligible
- ▶ Administered in Indiana by INDOT
- ▶ Indiana gets \$365,616,495 (after TA & SPR) annually
 - ▶ 48% of that available to use in any part of the State
 - ▶ 52% of that available for sub allocation

Transportation Alternatives (TA)

- ▶ Earmarked for transportation alternative projects
 - ▶ Bike/Ped projects #1 use of funds
 - ▶ Trails projects #2 use of funds
- ▶ Administered in Indiana by INDOT, MPOs
- ▶ Federally required competitive grant process
- ▶ Indiana gets \$22,870,735 annually
 - ▶ Federally mandated set aside within larger STBG

Recreational Trails Program (RTP)



- ▶ Earmarked for recreational trails projects
 - ▶ Comes from excise gas tax on motorized trail users
 - ▶ 30% motorized trails, 30% non-motorized trails, 40% discretionary
- ▶ Administered in Indiana by DNR
- ▶ Competitive grant process open to governments and non-profits (\$200k max grant per applicant per year)
 - ▶ 80% assistance with 20% non-federal match required
- ▶ Indiana gets \$1.2 million annually

Congestion & Mitigation Air Quality Improvement (CMAQ)

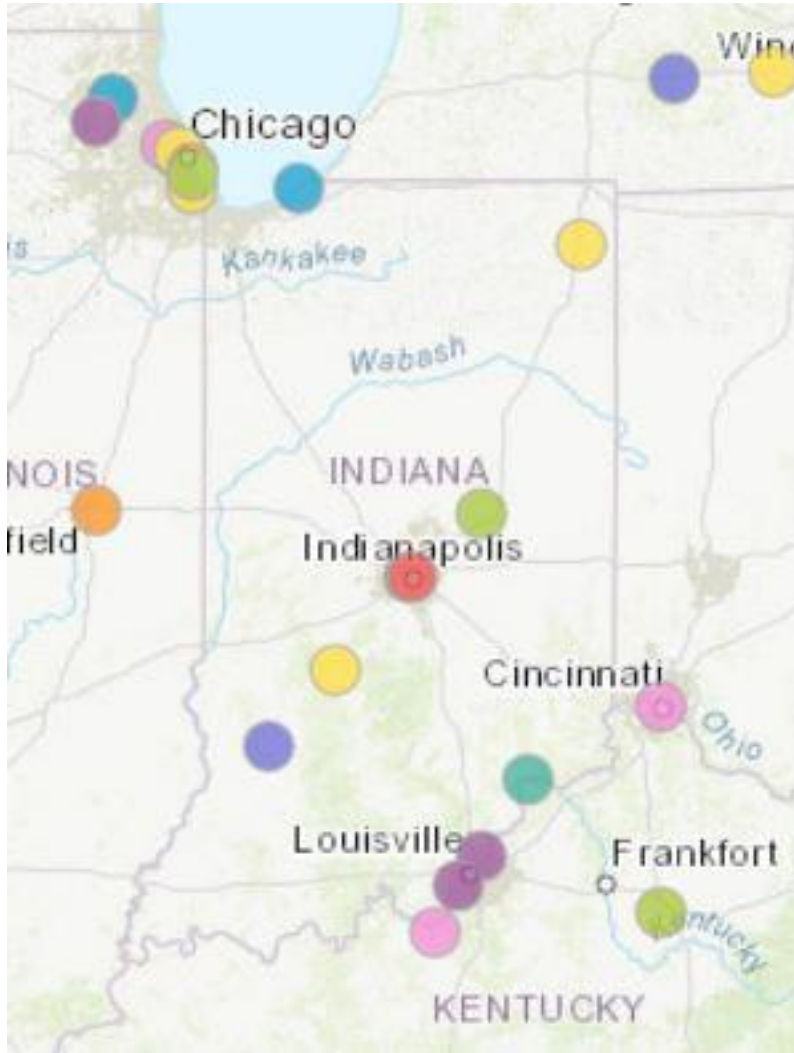
- ▶ Part of Clean Air Amendment in 1990
- ▶ Funds to focus on attainment or maintenance of a national ambient air quality standard
 - ▶ Some bike/ped and trail projects eligible
- ▶ Only places with poor air quality can utilize these funds
- ▶ Administered by FHWA
- ▶ Roughly \$45 million annually in Indiana

Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER)

- ▶ Most types of transportation projects eligible including trails
 - ▶ Emphasis on innovative and/or major impact projects
- ▶ Administered by USDOT
- ▶ Competitive grant for local/regional/state transportation partners
- ▶ Grants range from \$1 million (rural) to \$5-25 million (urban)
- ▶ Only funded through 2020
- ▶ Roughly \$500 million annually throughout the US
 - ▶ So far Indiana projects have received \$88.2 million since 2009



TIGER



Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF)

- ▶ Funding from investments on offshore oil & gas leasing earnings
 - ▶ Federal Land Acquisition
 - ▶ State/Local Assistance
- ▶ Must be land acquisition and/or facility construction
 - ▶ Mostly used for traditional parks, but trails are eligible
- ▶ State/Local Assistance Administered in Indiana by DNR
- ▶ Competitive grant process open to established Parks & Rec Boards w/ updated 5 year park plan
 - ▶ 50/50 matching grant, 200k max
- ▶ Indiana gets \$1.8 million annually



State Funding Sources

The background of the slide features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side and bottom, creating a modern, dynamic feel. The main text is centered on the left side of the slide.

President Benjamin Harrison Conservation Trust

- ▶ Funded through general assembly appropriations, environmental license plates sales, and donations
- ▶ Focused on acquiring **land** for conservation, recreation, and/or historic/archeological significance
 - ▶ Has been used to fund many trail land acquisitions

Place Based Investment Fund

- ▶ Projects must add to quality of place
 - ▶ Parks & Trails have been popular projects
- ▶ Applicants must be a partnership
- ▶ Administered by Office of Community & Rural Affairs (OCRA) and Indiana Office of Tourism Development (IOTD)
- ▶ Competitive Matching Grant Program
 - ▶ \$50k, 50/50 match

Destination Development Grant

- ▶ Projects should develop amenities and experiences that increase the tourism appeal of Indiana destinations
 - ▶ Trails, parks, and other outdoor recreation projects have been selected previously
- ▶ Local governments & non-profits are eligible
- ▶ Administered by IOTD
- ▶ Competitive Matching Grant Program
 - ▶ \$50k-250k, 50/50 match



Regional Cities Initiative

- ▶ Neighboring cities develop a regional plan that focuses on quality of place to make their region a destination to live, work, and play
- ▶ Administered by Indiana Economic Development Corporation
- ▶ 7 regions applied in 2015, 3 Selected
 - ▶ North Central
 - ▶ Northeast
 - ▶ Southwest
- ▶ Each region was awarded \$42 million to work on quality of place projects identified
 - ▶ This included many trails projects

Stellar Communities

- ▶ The Stellar Communities Designation Program provides resources for transformative quality of place community improvements
- ▶ Supported by state multi-agency partnership
- ▶ One city and one town designated each year
- ▶ Applicants must complete Strategic Investment Plans
- ▶ Trails have been a popular asset included in plans

Wabash River Heritage Corridor Fund

- ▶ Funding comes from royalties on oil & gas collected under Wabash River
- ▶ Can be used for recreational, historic, and cultural projects
 - ▶ Trails projects are eligible and are frequent awardees
 - ▶ Project must be along/near Wabash River
- ▶ Administered by Indiana DNR
- ▶ Grant cycle is irregular because of mineral collection & prices
 - ▶ Anticipating \$300,000 in next grant cycle, which is every 3 years or so

Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Funding Program

- ▶ Only funds for Bike/Ped or Active Transportation [PLAN](#)
 - ▶ Trails are part of more comprehensive plan
- ▶ Communities across Indiana are eligible
- ▶ Administered by Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH)
- ▶ \$20k grants available, 2 communities fund per year
 - ▶ 50/50 match required
- ▶ Once established in plan, trails and other bike/ped funding may be easier to secure

Possible State Trail Funding

- ▶ State Trails Grants
 - ▶ Founded in 2006
 - ▶ \$19.3million one time re-appropriated state funds & Lilly Endowment
 - ▶ Was administered by Indiana DNR
- ▶ Recreational Trails Maintenance Fund
 - ▶ Established in 2014
 - ▶ Currently unfunded
 - ▶ Need legislature to pass some type of funding mechanism
 - ▶ Ideally dedicated fund with sustainable funding source

Local Funding Sources

- ▶ Local Option Income Tax (LOIT)
 - ▶ County Option Income Tax (COIT)
 - ▶ County Adjusted Gross Income Tax (CAGIT)
 - ▶ County Economic Development Income Tax (CEDIT or EDIT)
- ▶ Tax Increment Finance (TIF) District
- ▶ Recreation Impact Fees (RIF)
- ▶ “Wheel” Tax

Other Funding Sources

- ▶ Community Foundations
- ▶ Non-Profit Trail Grants
 - ▶ Rail-to-Trails Doppelt Family Trail Development
 - ▶ People for Bikes Community Grants
 - ▶ Greenways Foundation
 - ▶ Indiana Trails Fund
- ▶ Private Foundations
 - ▶ Lilly Endowment Grants
 - ▶ Ball Foundations
 - ▶ Duke Energy Foundation Grants
- ▶ Corporate Sponsorships/Partnerships
- ▶ Individual Donors



Questions & Answers



How Other State Fund Trails & Outdoor Recreation

- ▶ Portion of State Gas Tax (TN,SD)
- ▶ Sales Tax (MN, MO)
- ▶ Sporting Good Sale Tax (TX)
- ▶ Bonds (WA, ME, OH, NV, CA)
- ▶ Portion of Lottery Proceeds (CO, OR, AZ)
- ▶ Royalties from sale & lease of state owned minerals (MI, AL)
- ▶ Real Estate Tax/Transfer (AR, PA, MD,NY, FL, TN, NC, WV)
- ▶ Transient occupancy tax (UT)

Case Studies From Other States



- <https://headwaterseconomics.org/economic-development/state-recreation-funding/>